



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**State Highway Administration Postpones Scheduled January 22, 2005  
ICC Study Public Hearing Due to Forecasted Snow**

*Hearing to be held on January 29, 2005 at James Blake High School*

**January 21, 2005** – The Maryland Department of Transportation’s (MDOT) State Highway Administration (SHA) has rescheduled the final hearing on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Intercounty Connector (ICC) study due to the regional snowfall forecasted on Saturday, January 22, 2005. The final public hearing on the DEIS will now be held on the published snow date of January 29, 2005 starting at 9 a.m. at James Blake High School, 300 Norwood Road, Silver Spring, MD.

“In order to ensure the safety of citizens who wish to participate in the public hearing process and to ensure that no person is denied a chance to speak with Study Team members or have their testimony heard in person due to inclement weather, SHA has moved the final public hearing to the scheduled snow date of January 29, 2005,” said State Highway Administrator Neil J. Pedersen. “It is our hope this decision will ensure motorists stay at home during the upcoming snowfall and let the men and women of SHA do the work of clearing the roads.”

The advertised snow date of January 29, 2005 will now be the final public hearing on the ICC Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m. with a presentation at 10:00 a.m. Testimony will be taken until 6 p.m. or until all testimony has been heard—whichever comes first.

Citizens, who signed up to speak on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, will be automatically heard on January 29. Citizens who could not attend one of the previously scheduled hearings but who now wish to attend and testify on January 29th should contact the ICC study team at 1-866-462-0020 weekdays between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to sign up. Non-English speaking citizens who wish to attend and testify should write or call the same number. Citizens may also sign up to testify via the study website by logging onto [www.iccstudy.org](http://www.iccstudy.org).

Written testimony will be taken via the website or by mail until February 15, 2005. Citizens who are hearing impaired and require assistance at the meeting should notify the ICC Study Team in writing or teletype at 1-800-735-2258. The address for the ICC Study Team is: ICC Study Team, State Highway Administration, Department of Planning Mail Stop C301, P.O. Box 717 Baltimore, MD 21203.

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